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Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

Office européen des brevets



(11)

**EP 0 701 988 A1**

(12)

**EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication:

20.03.1996 Bulletin 1996/12

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>: **C07C 49/753**, C07C 49/697,  
C07C 49/683, C07C 49/747,  
C07C 205/45, C07C 49/657,  
A61K 31/12

(21) Application number: 95113851.0

(22) Date of filing: 04.09.1995

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL  
PT SE

(30) Priority: 16.09.1994 GB 9418762

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(54) **Substituted cyclopentane-di- and triones, their preparation and their use as chloride channel blockers**

(57) The invention relates to the use of substituted cyclopentane-diones and cyclopentane-triones for the preparation of medicaments which are suitable for controlling airway diseases, secretory diarrhoe and inflammatory diseases.

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## Description

The invention relates to the use of substituted cyclopentane- di- and -triones as medicaments, in particular as chloride channel blockers, new active compounds and processes for their preparation.

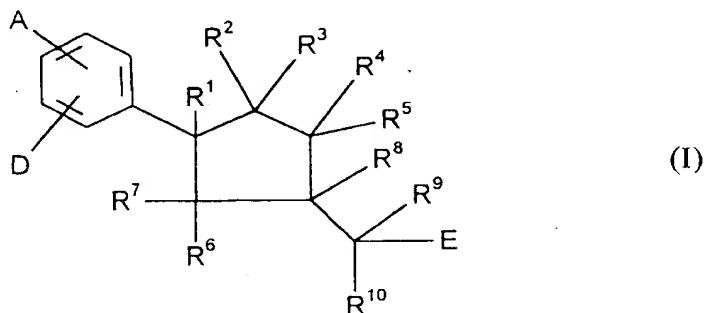
It is known that 1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione derivatives have an anticoagulant action (Arch. Pharm. (Weinheim Ger.) (1984), 317 (9), 781-9).

4-Cyclopentene-1,3-dione are described in the publication J. Am. Chem. Soc. (1989), 111 (3), 975-89.

4-Hydroxy-5-aryl-cyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione having anticoagulant action are described in DE 32 39 368.

It is well known that chloride ion movement through cell membranes plays a significant role in maintaining the electrogenic potential of many cell types. Chloride ion movements may be controlled by either transport proteins or by (various) chloride channel proteins. Airway epithelial cells contain chloride channels which upon activation provide a selective export of chloride ions. This is important in a number of physiological processes. A number of channel proteins have now been cloned and analysis of their protein sequence has shown them to contain a number of transmembrane domains indicative of their role in maintaining membrane potential. The best documented chloride channel protein is the cystic fibrosis transmembrane regulator (CFTR). Chloride channels have a significant function in variety of physiological processes.

It has been found that substituted cyclopentane- di- and -triones of the general formula (I)



in which

A and D

are identical or different and represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or represent a group of the formula  $-NR^{11}R^{12}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{13}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_a(CO_2)_bR^{14}$  in which

$R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$

are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms,

$R^{13}$

denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms,

a

denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

b

denotes a number 0 or 1,

$R^{14}$

has the abovementioned meaning of  $R^{13}$  and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,

$R^1$

represents hydrogen,

$R^2$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  and  $R^7$

represent a residue of the formula  $=O$ , or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent hydrogen,

or

5 R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together represent a double bond and in these cases,

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> respectively represent hydrogen, hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

10 R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent hydrogen,

or

15 R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together represent a double bond,

R<sup>10</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,

E represents a 5 to 7 membered, aromatic heterocycle having up to 3 heteroatoms from the series comprising N, S and O and to which a phenyl ring can be fused, or  
20 represents aryl having up to 6 to 10 carbon atoms and wherein all rings are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>17</sup> or -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>d</sub>-(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>R<sup>18</sup>  
25 in which

R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> have the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,

R<sup>17</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that

30 R<sup>18</sup> has the above mentioned meaning of R<sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,

d denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

35 e denotes a number 0 or 1,

and their isomers and salts, surprisingly have a strong chloride channel blocker action and are thus suitable for use in the control of airway disease, secretory diarrhoea and inflammatory diseases.

40 Preferably used compounds are those of the general formula (I), in which

A and D are identical or different and represent hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or  
45 represent a group of the formula -NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>13</sup> or -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>a</sub>(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>b</sub>R<sup>14</sup> in which

50 R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

R<sup>13</sup> denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms,

55 a denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

b denotes a number 0 or 1,

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R <sup>14</sup>	has the abovementioned meaning of R <sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,
R <sup>1</sup>	represents hydrogen,
R <sup>2</sup> and R <sup>3</sup> , R <sup>4</sup> and R <sup>5</sup> and/or R <sup>6</sup> and R <sup>7</sup>	represent a residue of the formula =O, or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,
R <sup>2</sup> and R <sup>3</sup> or R <sup>4</sup> and R <sup>5</sup> or R <sup>6</sup> and R <sup>7</sup>	represent hydrogen
or	
R <sup>1</sup> and R <sup>2</sup> or R <sup>1</sup> and R <sup>7</sup> or R <sup>2</sup> and R <sup>4</sup>	together represent a double bond and in these cases
R <sup>3</sup> , R <sup>5</sup> and R <sup>6</sup>	respectively represent hydrogen hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms,
R <sup>8</sup> and R <sup>9</sup>	represent hydrogen,
or	
R <sup>8</sup> and R <sup>9</sup>	together represent a double bond
or	
R <sup>10</sup>	has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,
E	represents thienyl, pyridyl, naphthyl or phenyl, which are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising fluorine, chlorine, bromine, nitro, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula -NR <sup>15</sup> R <sup>16</sup> , -CO <sub>2</sub> R <sup>17</sup> or -O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>d</sub> -(CO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>e</sub> R <sup>18</sup> , in which
R <sup>15</sup> and R <sup>16</sup>	have the abovementioned meaning of R <sup>11</sup> and R <sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,
R <sup>17</sup>	has the abovementioned meaning of R <sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that
R <sup>18</sup>	has the above mentioned meaning of R <sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,
d	denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,
e	denotes a number 0 or 1,
and their isomers and salts, Particularly preferably used compounds are those of the general formula (I), in which	
A and D	are identical or different and represent hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 5 carbon atoms or represent a group of the formula -NR <sup>11</sup> R <sup>12</sup> , -CO <sub>2</sub> R <sup>13</sup> or -O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>a</sub> (CO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>b</sub> R <sup>14</sup> , in which
R <sup>11</sup> and R <sup>12</sup>	are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 3 carbon atoms,

R <sup>13</sup>	denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 5 carbon atoms,
a	denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,
b	denotes a number 0 or 1,
R <sup>14</sup>	has the abovementioned meaning of R <sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,
R <sup>1</sup>	represents hydrogen,
R <sup>2</sup> and R <sup>3</sup> , R <sup>4</sup> and R <sup>5</sup> and/or R <sup>6</sup> and R <sup>7</sup>	represent a residue of the formula =O, or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,
R <sup>2</sup> and R <sup>3</sup> or R <sup>4</sup> and R <sup>5</sup> or R <sup>6</sup> and R <sup>7</sup>	represent hydrogen,
or	
R <sup>1</sup> and R <sup>2</sup> or R <sup>1</sup> and R <sup>7</sup> or R <sup>2</sup> and R <sup>4</sup>	together represent a double bond and in these cases,
R <sup>3</sup> , R <sup>5</sup> and R <sup>6</sup>	respectively represent hydrogen hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 3 carbon atoms,
R <sup>8</sup> and R <sup>9</sup>	represent hydrogen,
or	
R <sup>8</sup> and R <sup>9</sup>	together represent a double bond,
R <sup>10</sup>	has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,
E	represents thienyl, pyridyl, naphthyl or phenyl, which are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising fluorine, chlorine, bromine, trifluoromethyl, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula -NR <sup>15</sup> R <sup>16</sup> , -CO <sub>2</sub> R <sup>17</sup> or -O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>d</sub> -(CO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>e</sub> R <sup>18</sup> , in which
R <sup>15</sup> and R <sup>16</sup>	have the abovementioned meaning of R <sup>11</sup> and R <sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,
R <sup>17</sup>	has the abovementioned meaning of R <sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that
R <sup>18</sup>	has the above mentioned meaning of R <sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,
d	denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,
e	denotes a number 0 or 1,
and their isomers and salts.	
Very particular preferably used are compounds of the general formula (I), in which	
A and D are identical or different and represent hydrogen, phenyl, chlorine or methoxy.	
The invention additionally relates to new compounds of the general formula (I), in which	
A and D are identical or different and represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon	

atoms or represent a group of the formula  $-NR^{11}R^{12}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{13}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_a(CO_2)_bR^{14}$  in which

5  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$

are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms,

$R^{13}$

denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms,

10

a

denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

b

denotes a number 0 or 1,

15  $R^{14}$

has the abovementioned meaning of  $R^{13}$  and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,

$R^1$

represents hydrogen,

20  $R^2$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  and  $R^7$

represent a residue of the formula  $=O$ , or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  or  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  or  $R^6$  and  $R^7$

represent hydrogen,

25

or

$R^1$  and  $R^2$  or  $R^1$  and  $R^7$  or  $R^2$  and  $R^4$

together represent a double bond and in these cases,

30  $R^3$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$

respectively represent hydrogen hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

$R^8$  and  $R^9$

represent hydrogen,

35 or

$R^8$  and  $R^9$

together represent a double bond,

$R^{10}$

has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,

40

E

represents a 5 to 7 membered, aromatic heterocycle having up to 3 heteroatoms from the series comprising N, S and O and to which a phenyl ring can be fused, or represents aryl having up to 6 to 10 carbon atoms and wherein all rings are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{17}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_d-(CO_2)_eR^{18}$ , in which

45

$R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$

have the abovementioned meaning of  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  and are identical or different to that,

50

$R^{17}$

has the abovementioned meaning of  $R^{13}$  and is identical or different to that

$R^{18}$

has the above mentioned meaning of  $R^{14}$  and is identical or different to that,

55 d

denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

e

denotes a number 0 or 1,

and their tautomers, racemates, enantiomers, diastereomers and salts, with the exception of

1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione, 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-5-phenyl, 1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione, 3-[(4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl)methyl]-5-phenyl, 1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione, 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)methylene]-5-phenyl, 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione, 4-ethoxy-5-phenyl-2-(phenylmethylene)-(Z) and (E) 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione, 2-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-hydroxy-5-phenyl 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione, 2-[4-(chlorophenyl)methylene]-4-hydroxy-5-phenyl 2-(4-chloro-3-nitrobenzyliden)-4-hydroxy-5-phenyl-cyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione 3-(4-nitro-benzylidene)-5-phenyl-cyclopentane-1,2,4-trione 3-(4-methylbenzylidene)-5-phenyl-4-cyclopentane-1,2,4-trione 3-benzylidene-5-phenyl-cyclopentane-1,2,4-trione.

The substituted cyclopentane-di- and -triones of the general formulae (I) according to the invention can also be present in the form of their salts. In general, salts with organic or inorganic bases or acids may be mentioned here. Preferred are physiologically acceptable salts.

Physiologically acceptable salts are preferred in the context of the present invention. Physiologically acceptable salts of the substituted 1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione and 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione (I/la) can be metal or ammonium salts of the substances according to the invention, which contain a free carboxylic group. Those which are particularly preferred are, for example, sodium, potassium, magnesium or calcium salts, and also ammonium salts which are derived from ammonia, or organic amines, such as, for example, ethylamine, di- or triethylamine, di- or triethanolamine, dicyclohexylamine, dimethylaminoethanol, arginine, lysine or ethylenediamine.

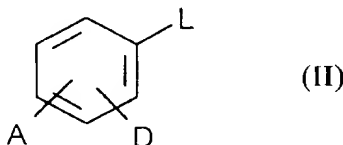
The compounds according to the invention can exist in stereoisomeric forms which either behave as image and mirror image (enantiomers), or which do not behave as image and mirror image (diastereomers). The invention relates both to the antipodes and to the racemate forms, as well as the diastereomer mixtures. The racemate forms, like the diastereomers, can be separated into the stereoisomerically uniform constituents in a known manner.

Double bonds can be either cis/trans, E or Z configured or E/Z-mixture.

As heterocycles the following are mentioned as preferred: thienyl, furyl, pyrrolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, benzoxazolyl, isoxazolyl, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl or indolyl.

Processes for the preparation of the compounds of the general formulae (I) according to the invention have additionally been found, characterized in that

[A] compounds of the general formula (II)

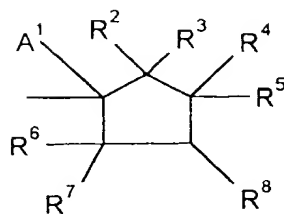


in which

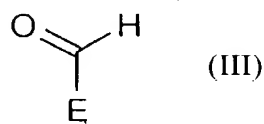
A and D have the meaning already given,

and

L stands for the residue



are reacted with compounds of the general formulae (III) or (IIIa)

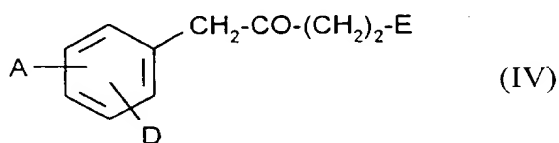


in which  
E has the meaning given,  
and

T denotes halogene, preferably chlorine,

likewise in the presence of an inert solvent and if appropriate in presence of a base and/or an auxiliary,  
or

[B] in the case of the triones and their tautomeres compounds of the general formula (IV)



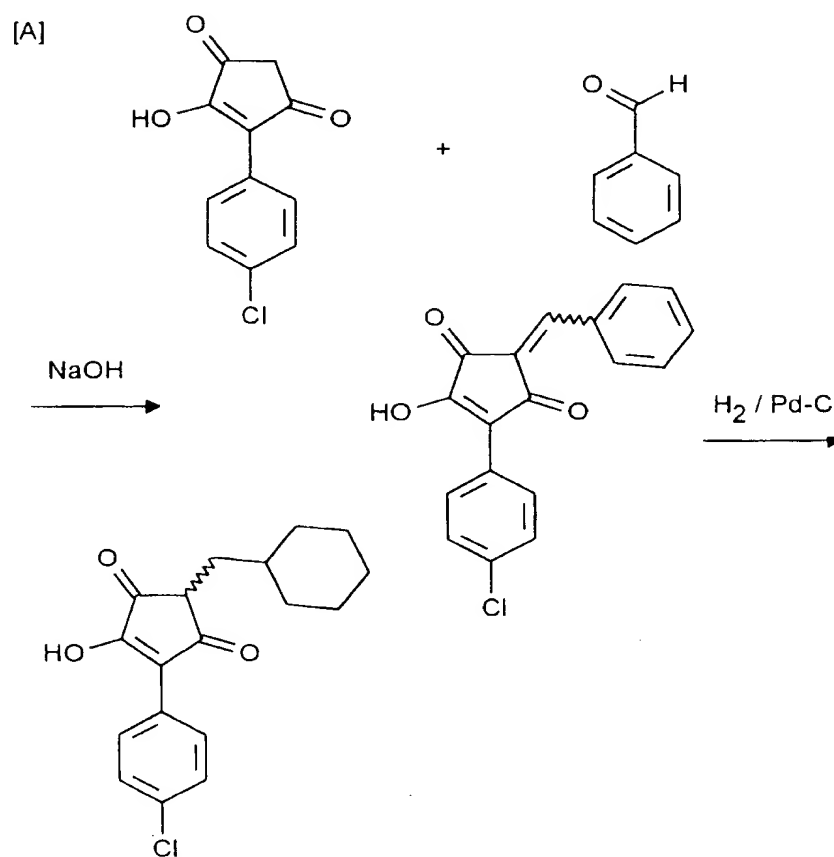
in which

A, D and E have the abovementioned meaning, are reacted with diethyloxalate /  $\text{NaOC}_2\text{H}_5$  by cyclisation after decarboxylation, and

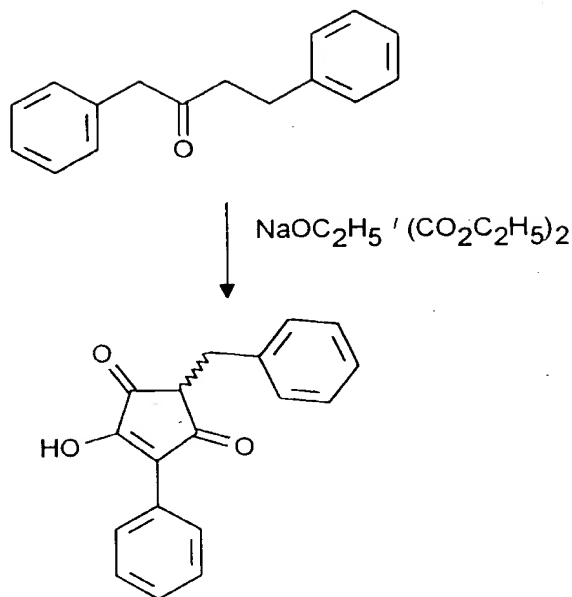
if appropriate in the case of  $\text{R}^8/\text{R}^9 = \text{hydrogen}$ ,

compounds of the general formulae (I) with a corresponding double bond are hydrogenated  
and in the case of  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^5$  or  $\text{R}^6 \neq \text{OH}$ , the corresponding hydroxyl compounds are etherified,

The processes according to the invention can be illustrated by way of example by the following reaction scheme:



[B]



Suitable solvents are generally customary organic solvents which do not change under the reaction conditions. These include ethers such as diethyl ether, dioxane or tetrahydrofuran, acetone, dimethylsulfoxide, dimethylformamide or alcohols such as methanol, ethanol, propanol or halogenohydrocarbons such as dichloromethane, trichloromethane or tetrachloromethane. Methanol and dichloromethane are preferred.

Suitable bases are generally inorganic or organic bases. These preferably include alkali metal hydroxides such as, for example, sodium hydroxide, sodium hydrogencarbonate or potassium hydroxide, alkaline earth metal hydroxides such as, for example, barium hydroxide, alkali metal carbonates such as sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, alkaline earth metal carbonates such as calcium carbonate, or alkaline metal or alkaline earth metal alkoxides such as sodium methoxide or potassium methoxide, sodium ethoxide or potassium ethoxide or potassium tert.butoxide, or organic amines (trialkyl( $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ )amines) such as triethylamine, or heterocycles such as 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO), 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU), or amides such as sodium amides, lithium butyl amide or butyllithium, pyridine or methylpiperidine. It is also possible to employ alkali metals, such as sodium or its hydrides such as sodium hydride, as bases. Potassium carbonate, triethylamine, sodium hydrogencarbonate and sodium hydroxide are preferred.

The base is employed in an amount from 1 mol to 10 mol, preferably from 1.0 mol to 4 mol, relative to 1 mol of the compounds of the general formulae (III) and (IIIa).

The processes according to the invention are in general carried out in a temperature range from  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  to  $+150^\circ\text{C}$ , preferably from  $50^\circ\text{C}$  to  $120^\circ\text{C}$ .

The process is generally carried out at normal pressure. However, it is also possible to carry out it at elevated pressure or at reduced pressure (for example in a range from 0.5 to 5 bar).

Auxiliaries employed are preferably condensing agents which can also be bases, in particular if the carboxyl group is present activated as the anhydride. Those preferred here are the customary condensing agents such as carbodiimides e.g. N,N'-diethyl-, N,N'-diisopropyl- and N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide, N-(3-dimethylamino-isopropyl)-N'-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride, N-cyclohexyl-N'-(2-morpholinoethyl)-carbodiimide metho-p-toluenesulphonate, or carbonyl compounds such as carbonyldiimidazole, or 1,2-oxazolium compounds such as 2-ethyl-5-phenyl-1,2-oxazolium-3-sulphate or 2-tert.butyl-5-methyl-isoxazolium perchlorate, or acylamino compounds such as 2-ethoxy-1-ethoxycarbonyl-1,2-dihydro-quinoline, or propanephosphonic anhydride, or isobutyl chloroformate, or benzotriazolyloxy-tris(dimethylamino)-phosphonium hexafluorophosphate or 1-hydroxybenzotriazole.

Additionally, for example, alkali metal carbonates, e.g. sodium carbonate or hydrogen carbonate or potassium carbonate or hydrogen carbonate, or organic bases such as trialkylamines, e.g. triethylamine, ethyldiisopropylamine, N-ethyl-morpholine, N-methylpiperidine or N-methylmorpholine can be employed. N-Methylmorpholine is preferred.

The etherication of the compounds according to the invention ( $R^{3''}/R^{5''}/R^{7''}$  (L)  $\neq$  OH) is carried out using one of the abovementioned alkylating agents in the presence of one of the abovementioned solvents and bases, preferably using potassium tert.butoxide or sodium hydride.

The reactions are in general carried out in a temperature range from -20°C to +80°C, preferably from 0°C to +60°C.

In general, the reaction is carried out at normal pressure. However, it is possible to work at reduced pressure or at elevated pressure (e.g. from 0.5 to 5 bar).

Hydrogenation is carried out in a known manner by transfer hydrogenation, for example using Pd/C in organic solvents such as ethers, e.g. tetrahydrofuran or dioxane, or alcohols e.g. methanol, ethanol or isopropanol.

Hydrogenation is in general carried out in a temperature range from 0°C to 80°C, preferably from 0°C to 40°C.

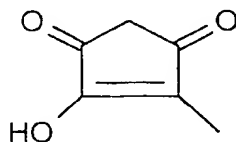
In general, hydrogenation is carried out at elevated pressure from 2 bar to 8 bar, preferably from 3 to 5 bar.

Suitable acids for individual process steps are in general protic acids such as, for example, hydrochloric or sulphuric acids. Sulphuric and hydrochloric acids are preferably employed.

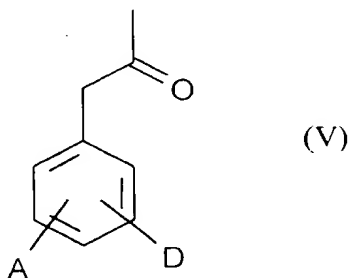
The acid is in general employed in an amount from 1 mol to 20 mol, preferably from 1 mol to 5 mol, in each case relative to 1 mol of the reactant.

The compounds of the general formula (II) are known or can be prepared

a) in the case of L =



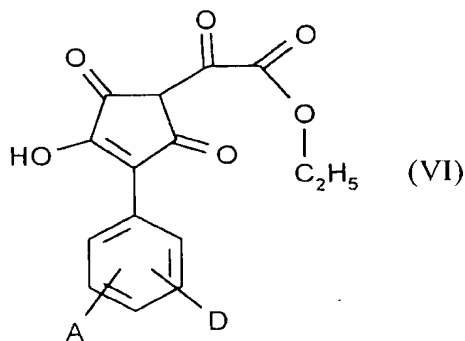
by firstly reacting compounds of the formula (V)



in which

A and D have the abovementioned meaning,

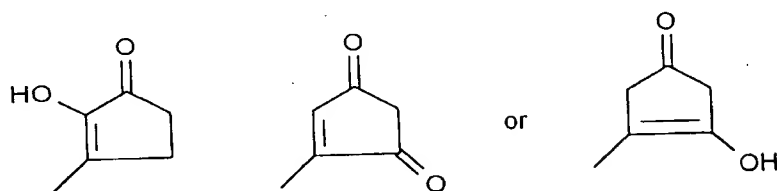
with diethyloxalate in the presence of sodium ethoxide to give compounds of the general formula (VI)



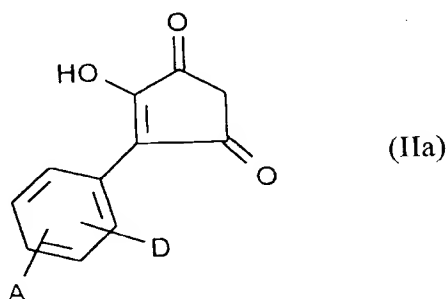
in which

A and D have the abovementioned meaning  
and following decarboxylation and cyclisation in analogy to the above described process [A], and

b) in the cases in which L denotes the residues

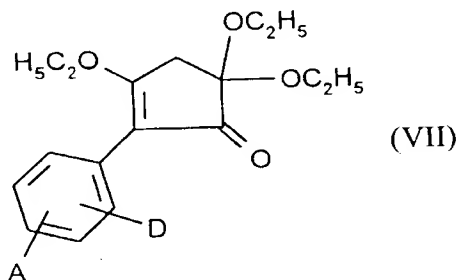


first the trione of the general formula (IIa)



in which

A and D have the abovementioned meaning  
are reacted with  $(C_2H_5O)_3CH$  to the corresponding acetal of the general formula (VII)



in which

A and D have the abovementioned meaning  
and in a last step are reduced in inert solvents selectively.

Reductions of the acetals is in general carried out using reducing agents such as, for example lithium aluminium hydrides and aluminium alkyls. Preferred are in the case of hydroxyl substituted cyclopentene derivatives lithium aluminium-hydride and in the other case DIBAL.

Suitable solvents are one of the abovementioned ethers for example tetrahydrofuran, dioxane or diethylether.

The reactions are in general carried out in a temperature range from  $-20^{\circ}C$  to  $+80^{\circ}C$ , preferably from  $0^{\circ}C$  to  $+60^{\circ}C$ . In general, the reaction is carried out at normal pressure. However, it is possible to work at reduced pressure or at elevated pressure (e.g. from 0.5 to 5 bar).

The compounds of the general formulae (VI), (VII) and (IIa) are as species new and can be prepared like it is described above.

The compounds of the general formulae (III), (IIIa) and (IV) are known or can be prepared in analogy by published methods.

It has surprisingly been found that the compounds of the general formulae (I) and (Ia) are chloride channel types; moreover that they are able to block one or more channel blockers selectively.

#### Airway Disease

Airway epithelial cell contain chloride channels which upon activation provide a selective export of chloride ions. It is known from the pathophysiology of cystic fibrosis that a defect in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) - a chloride channel, results in abnormal mucus secretions. This indicates a causal relationship between chloride transport and mucus secretion (in Cystic Fibrosis). Since mucus hypersecretion is a major clinical problem in airway diseases such as chronic bronchitis, bronchiectasis and asthma, it is probable that interference with chloride transport could regulate the secretion of airway mucus and thereby provide a significant improvement in the treatment of these diseases.

#### Secretory Diarrhoea

The gut also contains epithelial cells with chloride channels very similar to those found in the airways. These are also of physiological importance. Secretory diarrhoea is a disease in which excessive chloride secretion is a major problem. This arises after infection of the gut by toxins such as cholera toxin. Over one million deaths a year are attributable to this disease. In addition diarrhoea, of lesser severity, is also a significant problem in diverse gastro-intestinal disorders, such as inflammatory bowel disease. Thus providing a means of attenuating chloride secretion from cells should substantially reduce the severity of the diarrhoea.

#### Inflammation

Inflammatory cells such as neutrophils and lymphocytes also contain chloride channels which appear to be different from those found in epithelial cells. However, these channels appear to be activated in a number of pathophysiological processes. Accordingly compounds which block such channels may display pronounced anti-inflammatory effects.

This is confirmed by the following biological test system.

The most potent chloride channel blocker described to date is 2-(3-phenylpropyl)amino-5-nitrobenzoic acid (NPPB). This compound provides a suitable reference standard against which to judge other chloride channel blockers. It is the most effective of a series of chloride channel blockers and displays  $IC_{50}$  values, at different chloride channels, in the range 10nM-100 $\mu$ M. In the test described below maximal inhibition of chloride efflux is observed at 300  $\mu$ M, with 20% inhibition evident at the standard test concentration of 10  $\mu$ g/ml.

The airway epithelial cell line 4MBr-5 was obtained from ATCC and cells were cultured in 35mm diameter wells on six well plates until cell layers were confluent. Cells were loaded with  $Na^{36}Cl$  solutions at 2.5  $\mu$ Ci/well after washing the cell monolayer free of 50mM culture medium. Washing and loading were performed in Hepes buffer (pH 7.4) containing 130mM NaCl, 5.4mM KCl, 1.8mM  $CaCl_2$ , 1.0mM  $NaH_2PO_4$ , 0.8 mM  $MgSO_4$  and 5.5mM glucose. After a loading period of 60 minutes the cell layer was rapidly washed with 50mM Hepes in 241mM sucrose containing 1nM  $MgSO_4$  and the buffer replaced with 2ml of  $^{36}Cl^-$  free buffer containing 10  $\mu$ g/ml test compound, or vehicle control. (Test compound was also present for the final ten minutes of the loading procedure). After 20 minutes efflux was stopped and the radioactivity remaining in the cells determined by liquid scintillation spectrometry after lysis of the cells. After subtraction of the counts found in cells treated with vehicle the increased counts were compared to the corresponding value observed with NPPB and expressed as a percentage of the maximal inhibition.

As can be seen from the data in Table A compounds of the inventions were more effective than NPPB at inhibiting chloride efflux.

Table A

Example-No.	% Inhibition
2 / 24	28.6
15 / 36	37.7
16 / 37	58.2
17 / 38	83.5
18 / 1	24
19 / 39	31.1
20 / 40	22.7
21 / 41	50.6
22 / 42	65
23 / 43	36.4

The compounds of the general formulae (I) and (Ia) can therefore be employed in medicaments for controlling acute and chronic inflammation, secretory diarrhoea, for example gastro-intestinal disorders and inflammatory bowel diseases and airway diseases such as chronic bronchitis, bronchiectasis or asthma.

The compounds according to the invention are preferably suitable for the treatment and prevention of acute and chronic inflammations of the airways, such as emphysema, alveolitis, shock lung, asthma, bronchitis, arteriosclerosis, arthrosis, inflammations of the gastro-intestinal tract and myocarditis, secretory diarrhoea.

The new active compounds can be converted in a known manner into the customary formulations, such as tablets, coated tablets, pills, granules, aerosols, syrups, emulsions, suspensions and solutions, using inert, nontoxic, pharmaceutically suitable excipients or solvents. In this connection, the therapeutically active compound should in each case be present in a concentration of about 0.5 to 90% by weight of the total mixture, i.e. in amounts which are sufficient in order to achieve the dosage range indicated.

The formulations are prepared, for example, by extending the active compounds with solvents and/or excipients, if appropriate using emulsifiers and/or dispersants, where, for example, in the case of the use of water as a diluent, organic solvents can be used as auxiliary solvents if appropriate.

Administration is carried out in a customary manner, preferably orally or parenterally, in particular perlingually or intravenously.

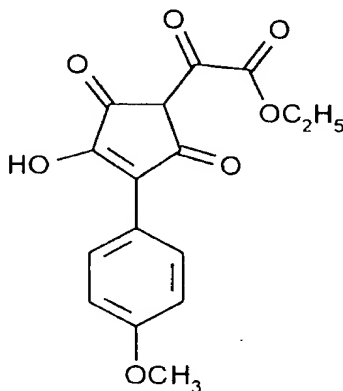
In the case of parenteral administration, solutions of the active compound can be employed using suitable liquid vehicles.

In general, it has proved advantageous on intravenous administration to administer amounts from about 0.001 to 10 mg/kg, preferably about 0.01 to 5 mg/kg of body weight to achieve effective results, and on oral administration the dosage is about 0.01 to 25 mg/kg, preferably 0.1 to 10 mg/kg of body weight.

In spite of this, it may be necessary to depart from the amounts mentioned, in particular depending on the body weight or the type of application route, on individual behaviour towards the medicament, the manner of its formulation and the time or interval at which administration takes place. Thus, in some cases it may be sufficient to manage with less than the abovementioned minimum amount, while in other cases the upper limit mentioned must be exceeded. In the case of administration of relatively large amounts, it is advisable to divide these into several individual doses over the course of the day.

**Starting compounds****Example I**

5 Ethyl(4-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopent-1,3-dioxo-4-ene-2-yl)-2-oxoacetate

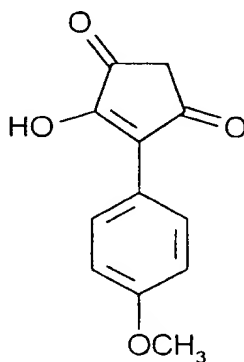


25 5.4 g (30.5 mmol) 4-methoxyphenylacetone and 8.15 ml (66 mmol) diethyloxalate were slowly added to a solution of 4.08 g (61 mmol) sodium ethoxide in ethanol at 5°C. After addition was complete the red solution was refluxed for 90 min, allowed to cool and then cooled to -10°C and 20 ml 1:1 aqueous conc. sulphuric acid was added. The resultant yellow precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with water to give 3.8 g (38%). A sample was recrystallised from ethyl acetate to give bronze flakes m.p. 176-178°C.

30 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (90 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) δ = 1.41 (3H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 3.84 (3H, s); 4.42 (2H, q, J = 7 Hz); 6.93 (2H, d, J = 9.2 Hz), 7.45 (1H, s); 8.20 (2H, d, J = 9.2 Hz).

**Example II**

35 4-Hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopent-1,3-dioxo-4-ene

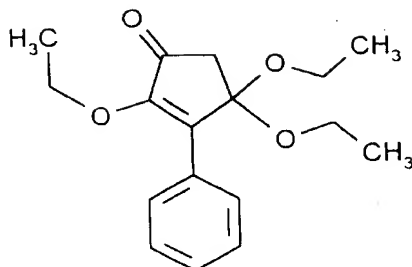


3.8 g (12 mmol) of the product of example I was refluxed for 90 min in 50 ml dilute hydrochloric acid. This was allowed to cool and the resultant red precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with water. Recrystallisation from aqueous ethanol gave deep red needles 2.0 g (77%), m.p. 198-200°C

55 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (90 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO): δ = 3.03 (2H, s); 3.5 (1H, br); 3.81 (3H, s); 6.95 (2H, dt, J = 7.03, 2.1 Hz); 8.15 (2H, dt, J = 7.03, 2.1 Hz).

## Example III

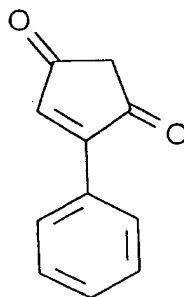
3,5,5-Triethoxy-2-phenylcyclopent-2-enone



2.5 g (13.3 mmol) 4-hydroxy-5-phenylcyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione were refluxed for 4 h with 6 ml (30 mmol) triethylorthoformate and a trace of p-toluene sulphonic acid in 50 ml ethanol. After cooling the ethanol was removed at reduced pressure and the residue neutralised and extracted with ether to give a deep red oil 167°C 13.36 g (87%). This was used without further purification.

## Example IV

4-Phenylcyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione

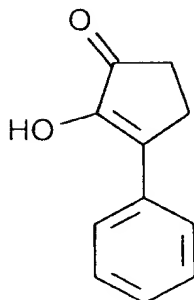


0.58 g (2 mmol) of the product of example III was dissolved in 20 ml dry toluene and cooled to -70°C, 4 ml 1 M DIBAL (in hexane) was added and stirred for 2 h. This was quenched with methanol and allowed to warm to room temperature, evaporated to dryness and then stirred in a mixture of dilute HCl and THF for 1 h. This was extracted with ether and the extracts washed, dried and concentrated to give the dione as sticky orange needles 0.45 g (> 100%). This was recrystallised from ethanol to give fine gold needles, m.p. 123-124°C, 80 mg (24%).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (90 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 3.1 (2H, s); 7.38 (1H, s); 7.4-7.6 (3H, m); 7.8 - 8.0 (2H, m).

## Example V

## 2-Hydroxy-3-phenylcyclopent-2-ene-one



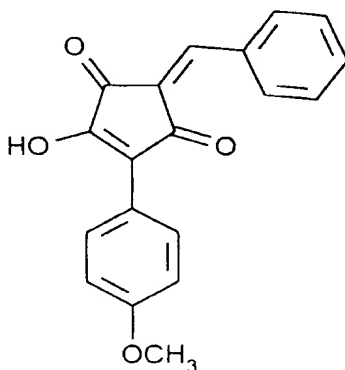
0.58 g (2 mmol) of the product of example III was dissolved in 15 ml dry THF and 2.2 ml 1 M lithium aluminium hydride (in ether) was added and refluxed for 2 h. This was quenched with aqueous sodium sulfate filtered and concentrated to dryness, then stirred in a mixture of dilute HCl and THF overnight. This was extracted with ether and the extracts washed, dried and concentrated to give the enone as a yellow solid, 0.3 g. This was recrystallised from chloroform to give a yellow powder m.p. 79-81°C.

$^1\text{H-NMR}$  (90 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 2.3-2.8 (4H, m); 7.0-7.6 (6H, m).

Preparation Examples

## Example 1

## 4-Hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(2-phenylethenyl)cyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione

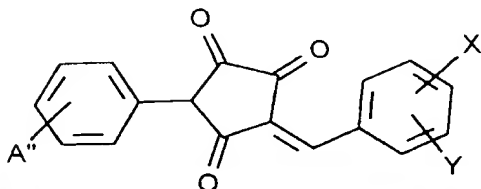


210 mg (1 mmol) of the product of example II and 120  $\mu\text{l}$  (1.1 mmol) benzaldehyde were stirred together overnight in 1 ml methanol and .5 ml 1 M sodium hydroxide. The suspension was acidified and the precipitate was filtered off and washed with water. Recrystallisation from ethyl acetate - pentane gave red needles 80 mg (26%) m.p. 226-227°C.

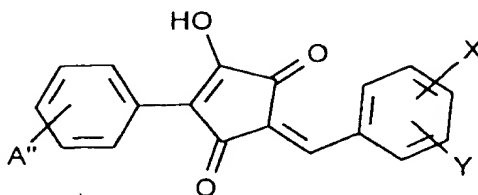
$^1\text{H-NMR}$  (90 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  = 3.87 (3H, s); 6.97 (2H, d,  $J$  = 7.04 Hz); 7.42 (1H, s); 7.4 - 7.6 (4H, m); 8.35 (2H, d,  $J$  = 7.04 Hz); 8.2 - 8.4 (2H, m).

As described for Example 1, use of the requisite phenylacetone substituted by A'' / D'' and Aldehyde E''-CHO gives the products shown in table 1, 2 and 3.

Table 1:

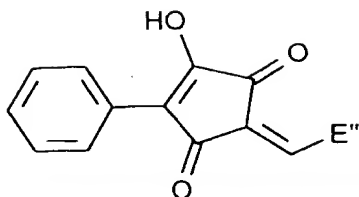


Example No.	X/Y	A''
2	4-CH <sub>3</sub> O / H	H
3	3,4-Cl	H
4	4-t-Bu / H	H
5	4-EtO / H	H
6	2-Cl / H	H
7	2-Me / H	H
6	3-Me / H	H
9	3,5-Me	H
10	4-Br / H	H
11	3-NO <sub>2</sub> / H	H
12	3-Br / H	H
13	2-Br / H	H
14	2,3-Cl	H
15	2,4-Cl	H
16	4-CF <sub>3</sub> / H	H
14	4-Ph / H	H
18	H / H	4-MeO
19	H / H	4-Cl
20	4-NEt <sub>2</sub> / H	H
21	4-OCH <sub>2</sub> Ph / H	H
22	3,4-Cl	4-MeO
23	2-OH / H	H

**Table 2:** (corresponding tautomers to compounds shown in table 1)

Example No.	X/Y	A''
24	4-OCH <sub>3</sub> / H	H
25	3,4-Cl	H
26	4-t-Bu / H	H
27	2-Cl / H	H
28	2-Me / H	H
29	3-Me / H	H
30	3,5-Me	H
31	4-Br / H	H
32	3-NO <sub>2</sub> / H	H
33	3-Br / H	H
34	2-Br / H	H
35	2,3-Cl	H
36	2,4-Cl	H
37	4-CF <sub>3</sub> / H	H
38	4-Ph / H	H
39	H / H	4-Cl
40	4-NEt <sub>2</sub> / H	H
41	4-OCH <sub>2</sub> Ph / H	H
42	3,4-Cl	4-MeO
43	2-OH / H	H

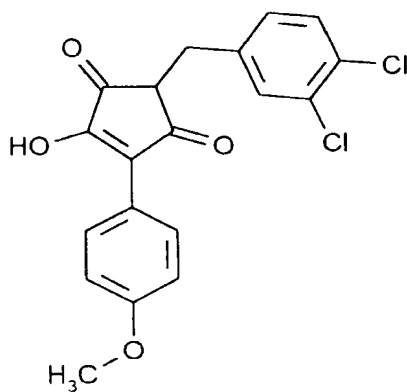
Table 3:



Example-No.	E''
44	1-naphthyl
45	2-naphthyl
46	2-thienyl
47	3-thienyl

**Example 48**

2-(2-[3,4-Dichlorophenyl]methyl)-4-hydroxy-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione

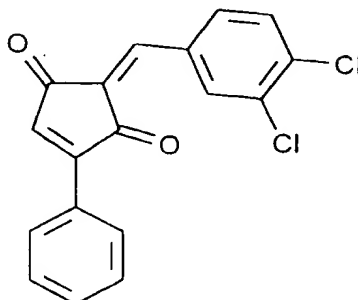


The product of example 42, 375 mg (1 mmol) was suspended in 50 ml methanol and 20 mg 10% palladium on charcoal was added. This was stirred under a hydrogen atmosphere for 18 hours. The resultant solution was filtered through Celite and concentrated to give the title compound, 0.35 g. This was recrystallised from ethyl acetate-pentane to give a yellow powder, 120 mg, m.p. 162-164°C.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (90 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 3.2 (1H, br); 3.25 (2H, d, J = 5 Hz); 3.80 (1H, t, J = 5 Hz); 3.82 (3H, s); 6.97 (2H, d, J = 8.8 Hz); 7.1 - 7.5 (3H, m); 8.0 (2H, d, J = 8.8 Hz).

## Example 49

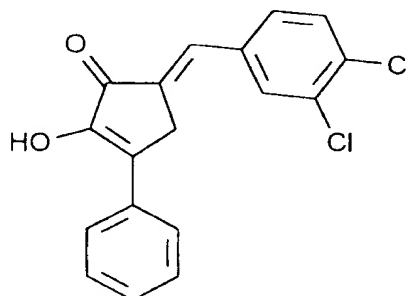
2-(2-[3,4-Dichlorophenyl]methylene)-4-phenylcyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione



0.08 g (0.45 mmol) dione and 0.09 g (0.5 mmol) 3,4-dichlorobenzaldehyde were mixed in 2 ml methanol and 5 ml 1 M sodium hydroxide and the suspension stirred overnight. Dilute HCl was added and the resultant precipitate was collected by filtration and the resultant solid was recrystallised from ethyl acetate to give the title compound as yellow needles m.p. 224-225°C, 0.08 g.  
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (90 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO): δ = 7.0 - 8.1 (10H, m).

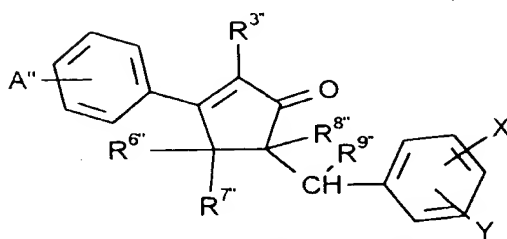
## Example 50

2-(2-[3,4-Dichlorophenyl]methylene)-5-hydroxy-4-phenylcyclopent-4-enone



0.22 g (1.3 mmol) of the product of example V and 0.25 g (1.4 mmol) 3,4-dichlorobenzaldehyde were mixed in 3 ml methanol and 10 ml 1 M sodium hydroxide and the suspension stirred overnight. Dilute HCl was added and the resultant precipitate was collected by filtration and recrystallised from ethyl acetate to give the title compound as yellow needles m.p. 178-180°C; 0.1g.  
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (90 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO): δ = 2.8 (2H, s); 7.0 - 8.1 (10H, m).

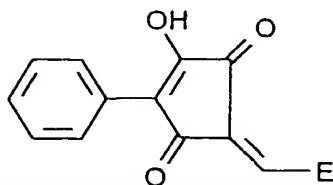
The compounds shown in table 4 are prepared in analogy to example 48 - 50.

**Table 4:**

Example- No.	A''	X/Y	R³	R⁶/R⁷	R⁸/R⁹
51	4-MeO	3,4-Cl	OMe	=O	double bond
52	H	4-t-Bu / H	OH	=O	H / H

The compounds shown in Table 5 are prepared in analogy to the procedure of example 1.

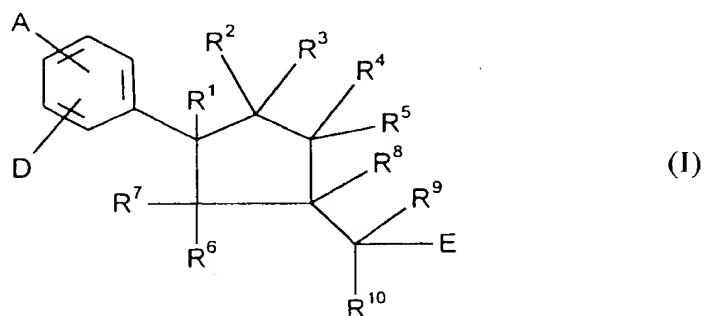
**Table 5:**



Ex.-No	E	Mp°C	Yield (% of theory)
53		260	42
54		285	55
55		270	71

## Claims

1. Use of a substituted cyclopentane- di- and -triones of the general formula (I)



in which

A and D

are identical or different and represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched all having up to 8 carbon atoms or represent a group of the formula  $-NR^{11}R^{12}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{13}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_a(CO_2)_bR^{14}$  in which

R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup>

are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched all having up to 6 carbon atoms,

R<sup>13</sup>

denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms,

a

denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

b

denotes a number 0 or 1,

R<sup>14</sup>

has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,

R<sup>1</sup>

represents hydrogen,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> and/or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>

represent a residue of the formula  $=O$ , or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>

represent hydrogen,

or

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup>

together represent a double bond and in these cases,

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>

respectively represent hydrogen, hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup>

represent hydrogen,

or

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup>

together represent a double bond,

R<sup>10</sup>

has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,

E

represents a 5 to 7 membered, aromatic heterocycle having up to 3 heteroatoms from the series comprising N, S and O and to which a phenyl ring can be fused, or represents aryl having up to 6 to 10 carbon atoms

and wherein all rings are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{17}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_d(CO_2)_eR^{18}$  in which

R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup>

have the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,

R<sup>17</sup>

has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that

R<sup>18</sup>

has the above mentioned meaning of R<sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,

d

denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

e denotes a number 0 or 1,

and their isomers and salts for the production of medicaments for controlling airway diseases, secretory diarrhoea and inflammatory diseases.

2. Use of substituted cyclopentane- di- and -triones of the formula according to claim 1, wherein

A and D are identical or different and represent hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or represent a group of the formula  $-NR^{11}R^{12}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{13}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_a(CO_2)_bR^{14}$  in which

$R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms,

$R^{13}$  denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms,

a denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

b denotes a number 0 or 1,

$R^{14}$  has the abovementioned meaning of  $R^{13}$  and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,

$R^1$  represents hydrogen,

$R^2$  and  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  represent a residue of the formula  $=O$ , or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  or  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  or  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  represent hydrogen

or

$R^1$  and  $R^2$  or  $R^1$  and  $R^7$  or  $R^2$  and  $R^4$  together represent a double bond and in these cases

$R^3$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  respectively represent hydrogen hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 4 carbon atoms,

$R^8$  and  $R^9$  represent hydrogen,

or

$R^8$  and  $R^9$  together represent a double bond

or

$R^{10}$  has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,

E represents thienyl, pyridyl, naphthyl or phenyl, which are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising fluorine, chlorine, bromine, nitro, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula  $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ ,  $-CO_2R^{17}$  or  $-O(CH_2)_d(CO_2)_eR^{18}$ , in which

R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> have the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,

R<sup>17</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that

R<sup>18</sup> has the above mentioned meaning of R<sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,

d denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

e denotes a number 0 or 1,

and their isomers and salts,

for the production of medicaments for controlling airway diseases, secretory diarrhoea and inflammatory diseases.

3. Use of substituted cyclopentane- di- and -triones of the formula according to claim 1,  
wherein

A and D are identical or different and represent hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 5 carbon atoms or represent a group of the formula -NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>13</sup> or -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>a</sub>(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>b</sub>R<sup>14</sup>, in which

R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 3 carbon atoms,

R<sup>13</sup> denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 5 carbon atoms,

a denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

b denotes a number 0 or 1,

R<sup>14</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> and/or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent a residue of the formula =O, or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent hydrogen,

or

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together represent a double bond and in these cases,

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> respectively represent hydrogen hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 3 carbon atoms,

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent hydrogen,

or

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together represent a double bond,

R<sup>10</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,

E represents thienyl, pyridyl, naphthyl or phenyl, which are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising fluorine, chlorine, bromine, trifluoromethyl, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 4 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>17</sup> or -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>d</sub>-(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>R<sup>18</sup>, in which

R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> have the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,

R<sup>17</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that

R<sup>18</sup> has the above mentioned meaning of R<sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,

d denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

e denotes a number 0 or 1,

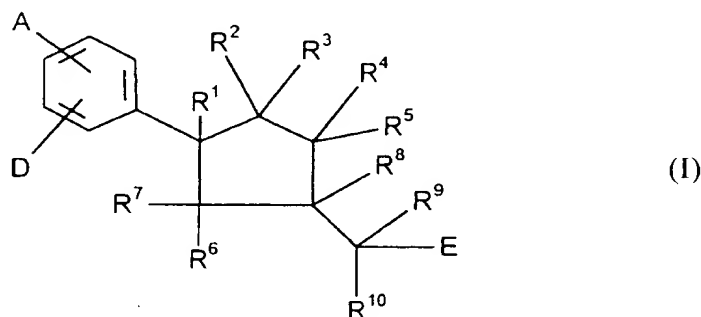
and their isomers and salts for the production of medicaments for controlling airway diseases, secretory diarrhoea and inflammatory diseases.

4. Use of substituted cyclopentane- di- and -trinone of the formula according to claim 1, wherein

A and D are identical or different and represent hydrogen, phenyl, chlorine or methoxy,

and their salts for the production of medicaments for controlling airway diseases, secretory diarrhoea and inflammatory diseases.

5. Substituted cyclopentane- di- and -trinones of the general formula



in which

A and D

are identical or different and represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms or represent a group of the formula -NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>13</sup> or -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>a</sub>-(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>b</sub>R<sup>14</sup> in which

R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup>

are identical or different and denote hydrogen, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms,

R<sup>13</sup>

denotes hydrogen or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 8 carbon atoms,

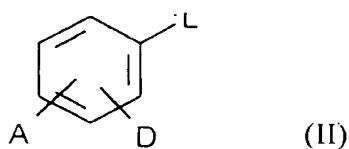
a

denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

- b denotes a number 0 or 1,
- R<sup>14</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that or denotes phenyl,
- 5 R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen,
- R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> and/or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent a residue of the formula =O, or two of the pairs have the abovementioned meaning and both substituents of the remaining pair,
- 10 R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> or R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent hydrogen,
- or
- 15 R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> together represent a double bond and in these cases,
- R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> respectively represent hydrogen hydroxyl or a straight-chain or branched alkoxy having up to 6 carbon atoms,
- 20 R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> represent hydrogen,
- or
- 25 R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together represent a double bond,
- R<sup>10</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of A or D and is identical or different to that,
- 30 E represents a 5 to 7 membered, aromatic heterocycle having up to 3 heteroatoms from the series comprising N, S and O and to which a phenyl ring can be fused, or represents aryl having up to 6 to 10 carbon atoms and wherein all rings are optionally monosubstituted to trisubstituted by identical or different substituents from the series comprising halogen, nitro, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or straight-chain or branched alkyl having up to 6 carbon atoms or by a group of the formula -NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>, -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>17</sup> or -O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>d</sub>-(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>e</sub>R<sup>18</sup>, in which
- 35 R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> have the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> and are identical or different to that,
- R<sup>17</sup> has the abovementioned meaning of R<sup>13</sup> and is identical or different to that
- 40 R<sup>18</sup> has the above mentioned meaning of R<sup>14</sup> and is identical or different to that,
- d denotes a number 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,
- 45 e denotes a number 0 or 1,
- and their tautomers, racemates, enantiomers, diastereomers and salts, with the exception of
- 50 1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione, 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-5-phenyl, 1,2,4-cyclopentanetrione, 3-[(4-chlorophenyl)methylene]-5-phenyl, 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione, 4-ethoxy-5-phenyl-2-(phenylmethylene)-(Z) and (E) 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione, 2-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-hydroxy-5-phenyl 4-cyclopentene-1,3-dione, 2-[4-(chlorophenyl)methylene]-4-hydroxy-5-phenyl 2-(4-chloro-3-nitrobenzyliden)-4-hydroxy-5-phenyl-cyclopent-4-ene-1,3-dione 3-(4-nitro-benzylidene)-5-phenyl-cyclopentane-1,2,4-trione 3-(4-methyl-benzylidene)-5-phenyl-4-cyclopentane-1,2,4-trione 3-benzylidene-5-phenyl-cyclopentane-1,2,4-trione.
- 55

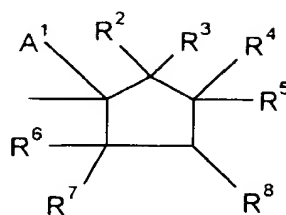
6. A process for the preparation of substituted cyclopentane- di- and -triones according to claim 5 characterized in that

[A] compounds of the general formula (II)

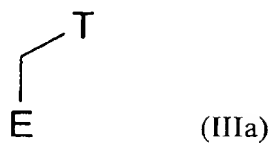
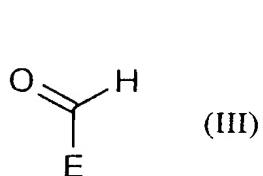


10  
in which  
A and D have the meaning already given,  
and

15 L stands for the residue



are reacted with compounds of the general formulae (III) or (IIIa)

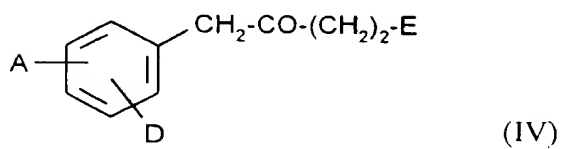


40  
in which  
E has the meaning given,  
and

T denotes halogene, preferably chlorine,

45 likewise in the presence of an inert solvent and if appropriate in presence of a base and/or an auxiliary,  
or

[B] in the case of the triones and their tautomeres compounds of the general formula (IV)



in which  
A, D and E have the abovementioned meaning,  
are reacted with diethyloxalate / NaOC₂H₅ by cyclisation after decarboxylation,

and  
 if appropriate in the case of  $R^8/R^9$  = hydrogen,  
 compounds of the general formulae (I) with a corresponding double bond are hydrogenated  
 and in the case of  $R^3$ ,  $R^5$  or  $R^6 \neq OH$ , the corresponding hydroxyl compounds are etherified.

7. A composition consisting of at least one substituted cyclopentane- di- and -trione according to claim 5 and a pharmacologically acceptable diluent.
8. A composition according to claim 7 as chloride channel blocker.
9. A composition according to claim 8 for controlling airway diseases, secretory diarrhoea and inflammatory diseases.
10. A process for the preparation of compositions according to claim 7 characterized in that the active ingredient together with the pharmacologically acceptable diluent is transferred in a form suitable for administration.



European Patent  
Office

## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 95 11 3851

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
D,A	ARCH. PHARM. (WEINHEIM, GER.) (ARPMAS,03656233);84; VOL.317 (9); PP.781-9, FREI UNIV. BERLIN;INST. PHARM.; BERLIN; 1000/33; FED. REP. GER. (DE), REHSE K ET AL 'Anticoagulant arylalkyl- and arylalkylidenecyclopent-4-ene-1,3-diones' * page 785 - page 787 * ---	1,5	C07C49/753 C07C49/697 C07C49/683 C07C49/747 C07C205/45 C07C49/657 A61K31/12
D,A	DE-A-32 39 368 (KARL ENGELHARD FABRIK PHARMAZEUTISCHER PRÄPARATE) * page 21 - page 22; claims 6,7,14 * ---	1,5	
D,A	J. AM. CHEM. SOC. (JACSAT,00027863);89; VOL.111 (3); PP.975-89, UNIV. CALIFORNIA;DEP. CHEM.; IRVINE; 92717; CA; USA (US), FOLAND L D ET AL 'Rearrangement of 4-alkynylcyclobutenones. A new synthesis of 1,4-benzoquinones' * page 987; figure 23 * ---	5	
A	JUSTUS LIEBIGS ANNALEN DER CHEMIE, vol. 436, 1924 WEINHEIM DE, pages 101-112, W. WISLICENUS ET AL. 'Ringschluss-Synthesen mit Oxalester' * page 109 - page 110 * ---	5	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) C07C A61K
A	US-A-3 592 921 (A. WAGNER ET AL.) * the whole document * -----	1,5	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 December 1995	Examiner Bonnevalle, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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